



Activities & Excursions

Please note that some activities are tide and weather dependent

Walks

The Dune Walking Trail is easily accessible from the lodge that will give you magnificent views of the beach and the lodge. The trail starts just past the office. On the dunes you will immediately notice the shade cloth barriers. Machangulo Beach Lodge is working very hard to rehabilitate the storm damaged dune to our south, these barriers are designed to protect plants from the wind and we hope to re-establish the lush forests on the dunes.

There are many other beaches, dunes and forests to explore in the area. Please chat to the activities staff should you require any information.

Santa Maria Village Tour

This is a great opportunity to experience local living by visiting the small village of Santa Maria. Enjoy a scrumptious lunch at the local restaurant Bemugi's Place. Machangulo Beach Lodge is committed to the improvement of the quality of life of our local community and the stimulation of local business. As a part of our community improvement project we provide free Santa Maria tours to all of our guests and we hope that you will help us and the community by supporting the local businesses. Lunch and purchases at Santa Maria Village are best done in Meticaís.

Inhaca & Portuguese Islands Excursions

Inhaca Island provides a wide array of activities to choose from. This delightful island is home to only one village, aptly names Inhaca Village where many shops and restaurants can be found. The island has more of a tourist feel to it and has many more people than the Machangulo Area.

Inhaca Village Tour

Take the boat from Machangulo Beach Lodge to Inhaca Village and stop at the jetty or the beach at the Hotel on Inhaca Island. The boat journey takes about 25 minutes and is well sheltered from the waves. Take a stroll on the beach to the village with your guide and explore the areas. The village is home to many little shops, a little market and Lucas's Restaurant, a great place to enjoy local food and drink.

(Please remember to take cash in Meticaís for this).
USD 40 pp, Minimum of 2 persons, 2 hours.

Add-ons:

Portuguese Island Picnic

This tiny deserted island is located to the north of Inhaca Island. These beaches are beautiful and quiet and the perfect place to relax and have a picnic.

USD 15 pp as add on to tour, Minimum of 2 persons, 2 hours.

Lighthouse

At the North East end of Inhaca Island the lighthouse that is still in operation today is a beautiful site to visit, especially on a clear day. The endless view is amazing and the 4x4 trip there is very interesting, passing many local communities nestled away under coconut trees.

USD 40 pp as add on to tour, Minimum of 2 persons, 2 hours.

4 x 4 Explore

Inhaca Island has great landscape and communities. From the forests of the south to the Coconuts and Mangroves of the North, we recommend that you explore the island from the Village to the Marine Reserve with a 4x4. Either take the boat from Machangulo Beach Lodge to the Inhaca Village and return to Machangulo Beach Lodge via 4x4 that crosses the entire island or vice versa.

USD 75 pp as add on to tour, Minimum of 2 persons, 2 hours.

Biology station

The University of Eduardo Mondlane maintains a biology station on the island and a visit to this station can be combined with other trips on the island.

USD 15 pp as add on to tour , Minimum of 2 persons, 1 hours.

Island trips can include any or all of the above excursions but must include the Inhaca Village Tour.

The prices above include a guide and the local Island taxes but exclude any purchases/donations on the island.



4x4 Trips

Machangulo Beach Lodge does not have a 4x4 on Inhaca Island and therefore we depend on business on the Island to provide the 4x4 service. The prices above are a guideline and are subject to change, please enquire.

Maputo Tour

Tour of the main historical and cultural sites of Maputo: Railway Station; Central Market; Municipal Town Building; Samora Machel Memorials; Iron House; Natural History Museum; Fort; Polana Hotel; The Saturday Bazaar or Arts & Crafts Fair (Saturdays only). This tour can also be arranged upon your departure from the lodge, weather and tide dependent.

These tours are often best to do before check in or after you check out from Machangulo Beach Lodge. It is an excellent way to spend a couple of hours while waiting for a boat or a flight.

Please enquire about availability.

Maputo Special Reserve Excursion – 4 x 4

The reserve is 77,400 hectares (191,000 acres) in extent and was originally proclaimed in 1932. The reserve will eventually form part of the Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area, which includes national parks from South Africa, Mozambique and Swaziland. At the moment it forms part of the Usuthu-Tembe-Futi Transfrontier Conservation Area. The park is home to 350 African Elephants, birds (Kingfisher, Fish Eagle and many more), zebra (if you are lucky), large and small antelope, Nile Crocodile and Hippopotamus. You will be transported to the 4x4 at the Ponta Torres Parking area where your guide Bemugi will take you to the Maputo Special Elephant Reserve. A packed lunch and drinks are provided, please be sure the activities staff knows what your preferences are.

Rates are USD 125 pp for a minimum of 2 guests and a maximum of 4 guests. (Full day excursion – duration 7 to 8 hours)

Santa Maria Bay and Estuaries Exploration

The estuaries and bay between Inhaca Island and Santa Maria Village provide endless hours of fun and exploration. Take the boat to discover the mangrove forests or go searching amazing photographic opportunities. The choice is yours. From flocks of flamingos, turtles and Dugongs to flying fish and local sailing boats. The bay is an amazing eco system, teeming with life.

Rates are USD20 per person, minimum 2 persons for 2 hours. This trip can also be taken as a Sunset Cruise! (Drinks excluded)

Santa Maria Bay and Estuaries Dhow Cruise

The estuaries and bay between Inhaca Island and Santa Maria Village can also be explored by Dhow. A romantic sail around the bay with a traditional hand built wooden Dhow.

Rates are USD20 per person, minimum 2 persons for 2 hours. (Activity subject to Dhow availability)

This trip can also be taken as a Sunset Cruise! (Drinks excluded)

Fishing

Machangulo Beach Lodge is situated in the midst of many world class fishing locations. The area provides opportunities to target a large number of species in all weather conditions. Using your favourite techniques or learning to perfect new styles from our world-class fishing guides, you're bound to have the fishing trip of a lifetime!

Here are some of the styles and techniques often used:

- Intertidal light tackle estuary fishing and fly fishing
- Light tackle lure fishing off beach and fly fishing
- Deep sea jigging, drop shot, fly, conventional
- Surf zone, drop shot light and heavy
- Plug light and heavy
- Live bait/dead bait surf zone
- Night fishing – Boat, beach, weather and conditions dependent
- Channel fishing

Some of the commonly caught species:

Giant Kingfish, Golden Kingfish, Blue Fin Kingfish, Big Eye Kingfish, Black Tip or Yellow fin Kingfish, Green Spot Kingfish, Amberjack, Lesser Amberjack, Tropical Yellow Tail, Green Job fish, Prodigal Sun, Striped Bonito, Oceanic Bonito, Yellow fin Tuna, Telang Queen Fish, Needle scale Queen Fish, Cave Bass, Swallowtail Rock Cod, Pompano/ Three Spot, Speckled Snapper, Blue Emperor, Queen Mackerel, Mozambique Emperor, King Mackerel, Sail Fish, Dorado, Greater Barracuda, Pick handle Barracuda, Blood Snapper, Mozambique Brown Ray, Honeycomb Ray, Grey Grunter, Thread fin, Bonefish --- Sharks - Black Tip, Short nosed black tail/reef shark, Zambezi, Hammer Head, Sickie fin Lemon Shark, Mysterious Monsters that are "unlandable".

Rates are per boat per hour - USD 100.00 (maximum 6 guests) and includes fuel, drinks, use of tackle and snacks.

Please note that all lost or broken tackle will be charged for.

SCUBA Diving

The Marine reserves surrounding the Machangulo Peninsula provides some excellent diving. Off the beaten track diving at its best. With ample options for advanced



divers it is the ideal location for those looking for a unique and unexplored diving experience. For the complete novice we offer a full selection of diving courses. Here are some highlights of what we offer...

In a nutshell

- Full diving centre with compressor, cylinders and all other necessary equipment (no Nitrox however)
- 250HP 30 ft Diving boat with low gunnels, stairs and ample space.
- PADI Dive instructor and all around nicest guy in the world, Isac! (one of the first Mozambican nationals to ever attain Instructor level with PADI!)
- Year round diving with water temperatures between 20°C (lowest, but seldom) to 30°C (in summer)
- Wide range of experiences, from shore dives to boat dives and even reefs that no-one has ever dived before. . .

Courses

Refresher –

(Suggested if you haven't dived within the last 6 months but compulsory if you haven't been diving in the last 12 months).

This half day course covers a quick test of basic dive theory allowing you to feel proficient in the use of recreational dive tables, emergency procedures, proper pre-dive checks and ascent/descent procedures, underwater communications, and the theory behind equalization and buoyancy. After completion of the theory, it is into the pool to practice equipment set up and disassembly, alternate air source use, controlled emergency swimming ascents, low pressure inflator detachment and oral inflation, buddy checks, ascent and descent procedures, compass use and navigation.

Bubble Maker – (8 – 12 years old)

Giving younger children the opportunity of joining in the family fun of SCUBA diving. Children should be comfortable in the water, but they don't have to be super swimmers. With youngsters in mind, the maximum depth is only 2 metres/ 6 feet. Typical sessions last about an hour and are conducted in the lodge pool.

Discover SCUBA Diving – (12 years +)

While not an actual SCUBA certification, during the Discover SCUBA Diving experience you'll learn how to use SCUBA equipment in shallow water and get a quick and easy introduction to what it takes to explore the underwater world. The course typically takes half a day, including theory, pool session and an open water SCUBA dive (which will count towards a SCUBA Diver or Open Water Diver certification).

SCUBA Diver – (12 years +)

A three day course which will enable you to dive to 12 metres. This course requires less time than the PADI Open

Water Diver course, as it only covers the first three of five sections of knowledge development, the first three of five pool sessions, and the first two of four open water training dives, resulting in a limited certification. This certification allows for ample dive experience and is a good warm-up for the Open Water Diver course, if that's your ultimate goal. Upon completion, you will receive all the paperwork required to apply for PADI SCUBA Diver certification when you get home.

Open Water Diver – (12 years +)

This 5 day course is the world's most popular SCUBA course, and consists of three main phases: Knowledge Development to understand basic principles of SCUBA diving, Confined Water Dives to learn basic scuba skills, and Open Water Dives to review your skills and explore! If you've tried diving through a Discover SCUBA Diving experience, the skills you learned may be credited towards a portion of the full PADI Open Water Diver course certification. Upon completion, you will receive all the paperwork required to apply for PADI Open Water Diver certification when you get home.

Advanced Open Water Diver – (12 years +)

The Advanced Open Water Diver course helps you increase your confidence and build your SCUBA skills so you can become more comfortable in the water. This is a great way to get more dives under your belt while continuing to learn under the supervision of our PADI Instructor, Isac. This course builds on what you've learned and develops new capabilities. You will complete five adventure dives that introduce you to: underwater navigation, deeper water diving (typically anywhere from 18-30 metres/ 60-100 feet), boat diving, drift diving, AWARE – Fish Identification, underwater naturalist. Each Adventure Dive in the PADI Advanced Open Water Diver course may credit toward the first dive of the corresponding PADI Specialty Diver course. In order to complete this course, you must be a PADI Open Water Diver (or have a qualifying certification from another training organization).

Reef and Shore dives

If you are an up-to-date diver and have your relevant qualifications with you, we have several different dive sites that can be visited while you are staying with us.

Santa Maria Peninsula – USD 50 pp

Diving in the marine reserve is a wonderful dive, with depths not exceeding 18 meters. Situated in the Inhaca Marine Reserve, there are beautiful juvenile reef fish and a turtle or two resident there, as well as schools of larger predatory fish that move into the area on the incoming tides. Rate includes Marine reserve fees.

Ray Alley – USD 50 pp

Situated behind the surf-line from the point, this dive ranges from 3.5 meters to 6 meters. There are lots of coral blocks, humpback snappers, electric rays, and sometimes even eagle rays.



Baixa Santa Maria – USD 70 pp

Average time: 2 hours – Advanced Open Water Divers only. This reef has a large cave with spotted snappers inside it. There is also a good chance of seeing some sharks. This is a deeper dive with depths down to 30 meters.

Baixa Danea – USD 90 pp

Average time: 3 hours. This dive will give you a good opportunity to see lots of green turtles, some ragged tooth sharks, large schools of fusiliers and trigger fish. A vast reef with amazing coral life. Great option for a double dive.

Graham's Spot – USD 60 pp

Average time: 2 hours. This reef gives you a great chance of seeing large schools of spotted grunTERS, fusiliers and surgeon fish.

There are other reefs that are accessible from time to time and can be discussed with the diving staff.

FYI - Baixa means "lower" in Portuguese and is the word used for REEF. So Baixa Santa Maria = Santa Maria Reef. . .

Additional Information

- Any other SCUBA dives are USD 50 per person per dive.
- A boat usage fee is also charged at USD 50 per hour.
- Rates include fuel, Dive Master and cylinder.
- Rates exclude equipment rentals. Rentals available at USD 5 per item.
- All dives courses are subject to availability to be booked at least 2 weeks prior to arrival.
- All water based activities are subject to tidal and weather conditions and are only presented at the discretion of the Dive Master or Lodge Manager.

Snorkelling

Inhaca Island Snorkelling Picnic - USD 35 pp, Minimum of 2 persons, 3 hours.

Our most popular activity!

The Inhaca Island Marine reserve has 2 km of pristine snorkelling and the Picnic Snorkel on the island is HIGHLY recommended, one of our favourite activities.

During neap tide days (please check tides at the activities centre) there is also great snorkelling right in front of the lodge. The use of the snorkelling gear for this is free...

Relaxation

Spa & Wellness

Machangulo Beach Lodge's Spa offers a great selection of relaxing treatments that will leave you feeling rejuvenated and relaxed. A wide variety of massages, wraps, skin care treatments and more.

Please see our Spa Menu or have a chat to our Spa therapist for more information.

Beach Picnics

Choose your secluded spot on Machangulo beach for a unique picnic experience. Picnics by boat can be arranged to Inhaca Island and Portuguese Island. Chat to the activities staff to setup your shaded picnic area wherever you choose.

Activities Centre

The activities centre is situated next to the Beach Bar and Isac and his staff will make sure that you are well taken care of.

The following is available at the beach bar and activities centre:

- Beach Towels
- Fishing rods
- Snorkel sets
- Kids toys
- Beach chairs

